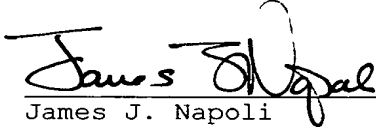




PATENT--NO FEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	)	I hereby certify that this
	)	paper is being deposited
MARIO SPATAFORA	)	with the United States
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Serial No.: 10/607,705	)	cient postage, as first
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Filed: June 27, 2003	)	addressed to:
	)	Commissioner for Patents
For: METHOD OF PRODUCING SOFT	)	P.O. Box 1450
PACKETS OF CIGARETTES	)	Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
	)	
Attorney Docket No. 20022/38497A	)	Dated: October 8, 2003
	)	
Group Art Unit: 3721	)	
	)	
Examiner: Kahsay Habte	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	James J. Napoli
	)	Registration No. 32,361
	)	Attorney for Applicants

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to his duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicant hereby brings to the examiner's attention patents that may be material to the examination of the above-identified application. Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, applicant encloses a completed Form PTO-1449 listing of the possibly pertinent patents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted more than three months after the filing date of the above-identified application, and, to applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office

Action on the merits. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office.

The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is enclosed herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the patents not enclosed herein were provided in a prior application that applicants rely upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Copies of nonenclosed documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 were provided to, or cited by, the examiner of the following pending patent application:

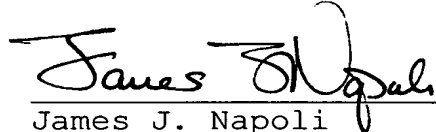
Mario Spatafora  
Serial No. 10/142,254  
Filing Date: May 14, 2002  
Title: Method of Producing  
Soft Packets of Cigarettes

If the examiner needs a new copy of a patent listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449, applicant can provide such a copy.

Respectfully submitted,

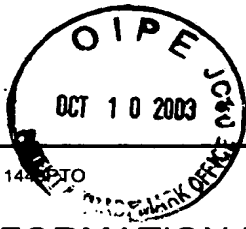
**MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP**

By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James J. Napoli", is written over a horizontal line.

James J. Napoli  
(Registration No. 32,361)  
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Chicago, Illinois  
October 8, 2003



Form 1449-PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	10/145,254
				Filing Date	May 14, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Mario Spatafora
				Group Art Unit	3721
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number	20022/38497

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		4,838,846	06/1989
		5,010,929	04/30/1991
		5,461,841	10/1995
		5,701,725	12/1997
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		6,557,321	05/2003

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		EP 0 330 495 (EPO)	08/30/89
		EP 0 712 783 (EPO)	05/22/96
		EP 0 756 996 (EPO)	02/05/97
		EP 0 865 987 (EPO)	09/23/98
		EP 0 972 704 (EPO)	01/19/00
		EP 1 022 220 (EPO)	07/26/00
		EP 1 052 171 (EPO)	11/15/00

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.